
Community-Based Job Training Grants

Owensboro Community and Technical College



Grantee: Owensboro Community and Technical College (OCTC)

Industry Focus: Biotechnology

Key Partners: Green River Workforce Investment Board, Green River Youth Council, Green River Area Development District, and Owensboro One-Stop, Greater Owensboro Economic Development Corporation and the Owensboro Biotech Alliance, Regional P-16 Council, Discover College, and SkillTrain Adult Learning Center

Grant Amount: \$824,779

Leveraged Amount: \$876,000

Location of Grant Activities: Kentucky

Challenge: The continued growth of the local biotechnology industry has resulted in an increased demand for trained workers available to fill current industry needs.

Addressing the Challenge: This project will implement a comprehensive recruitment campaign targeting students at 22 high schools, dislocated workers, career changers, and untapped populations. Additionally, the project will incorporate two biotechnology laboratory courses adapted to meet local circumstances into current certificate and associate level biotechnology curriculum; offer real-life industry exposure through summer internship opportunities; offer professional development opportunities to elementary and high school teachers; and promote a career pathway from the senior level of high school through the baccalaureate level, including alternative delivery models such as online, hybrid, weekend offerings, etc.

Projected Outcomes:

- Train 150 incumbent workers through the biotech and life science program
- Enroll 120 new students in OCTC's biotechnology and life science program
- Procurement of laboratory equipment to provide hands-on training to 120 new students enrolled in the program, 90 high school seniors, 90 high school teachers engaging in professional development, and 1,800 K-12 students
- Modification of the curriculum of five courses into alternative delivery methods that involve technology-based learning.

